# **5** Storing and Handling Chemicals

- Use only the amount indicated on product labels.
- Store chlorine and other chemicals in a covered area to prevent runoff.
- Chlorine kits, available at retail swimming pool equipment and supply stores, should be used to monitor the water content and pH levels.
- Chlorine should never be allowed to flow into the gutter or the storm drain system.



#### **6** Resources

For additional information on the disposal or discharge of pool and fountain water, telephone the City of Long Beach's Integrated Resources Bureau (IRB) at (562) 570-2876.

#### **Spill Response Agencies**

- To report a spill or release of hazardous material that actively threatens people or property call:
   City of Long Beach - Fire Department Dial 911
- To report a spill or release of motor oil, paint, solvents, or fuel in immediate danger of entering storm drain system call: City of Long Beach - Fire Department Dial 911

If not in immediate danger of entering storm drain system call:

City of Long Beach - Fire Department (562) 436-8211

To report non-hazardous spills in sewer system call:
 City of Long Beach - Water Department
 (562) 570-2390

#### **Storm Drains & Public Streets**

- To report clogged catch basins & drains call:
   City of Long Beach Water Department (562) 570-2390
- To report sediment of mud in public street or alley call:
   City of Long Beach Department of Public Works (562) 570-2700
- To report trash, leaves, branches, & grass clippings in the public street or alley call:

City of Long Beach - Department of Public Works (562) 570-2876

### **Unhealthful Discharges or Conditions**

- To report discharges of food waste.
- To report discharges of sewage, greywater, dirtywater, RV waste, raw sewage, or pool & pond water.
- To report discharges of stagnant pool or pond water.
- To report discharges from apartment house dumpsters call:

City of Long Beach
Department of Health & Human Services
Bureau of Environmental Health
(562) 570-4129

### Illicit Discharges from Private Property

- To report discharges from dumpsters on private property.
- To report discharges from washing of roofs of single family dwellings.
- To report trash & debris on privatly owned property.
- To report illegal mobile car wash businesses.
- To report illegal auto repair business on private property.
- To report Auto repair on the public street.
- To report discharges from construction sites call:

City of Long Beach Department of Planning & Building (562) 570-6651 This brochure is one of a series of pamphlets describing storm drain protection measures. Other pamphlets include:

**Automotive Maintenance & Car Care** 

Food Service Industry

Fresh Concrete & Mortar Application

General Construction & Site Supervision

Heavy Equipment & Earth-Moving Activities

**Horse Owners & Equine Industry** 

Home Repair & Remodeling

Landscaping, Gardening & Pest Control

Painting

Roadwork & Paving

For additional brochures call:

City of Long Beach

Department of Planning & Building (562) 570-6651

For more information about storm drain protection call:

City of Long Beach Department of Public Works Bureau of Engineering Stormwater Management Division (562) 570-6023



# Stormwater Best Management Practices (BMPs)



# Swimming Pool, Jacuzzi & Fountain Maintenance

**Gas Stations** 

Auto Repair Shops

**Auto Body Shops** 

Car Dealerships

Mobile Fleet Managers

Mobile Fleet Washing Businesses

# **Ocean Pollution Prevention:** It's Up to Us

Long Beach has two drainage systems -- the sewers and the storm drains. The storm drain system was designed to prevent flooding by carrying excess rainwater away from city streets out to the ocean. Because the system contains no filters, it now serves the unintended function of carrying urban pollution straight to the ocean.

This panishlet tells you how to prevent ocean pollution from "stormwater" or "urban runoff."

Rain, industrial and household water mixed with urban pollutants creates stormwater pollution. The pollutants include: oil and other automotive fluids, paint and construction debris, yard and pet wastes, pesticides and litter.

Urban runoff pollution flows to the ocean through the storm drain system - 395 miles of pipes that take water and debris straight from Long Beach streets to the ocean. Each year millions of callons of polluted urban runoff enter the ocean untreated, leaving toxic chemicals in our surf and over 4,300 tons of trash on our beaches.

Urban runoff pollution contaminates the ocean, closes beaches, harms aquatic life and increases the risk of inland flooding by clooping outters and catch basins. Overall, stamwater pollution prevention programs cost the City of Long Beach more than \$12.7 million per year.

These Best Management Practices (BMPs) will ensure a cleaner ocean and city.

#### **Pool Discharge Problems**

Wastewater from residential swimming pools, jacuzzis, fish ponds and fountains contain chemicals used for sanitizing or cleansing purposes. These toxic chemicals (such as chlorine or copper-based aloae-



cides) pose a hazard to aquatic and human life if the wasterwater is allowed to flow to the ocean by way of the storm drains.

Additives that change water color, such as aqua-blue dyes used in fountains, negatively impact marine ecosystens by changing water temperature, filtering out sunlight and preventing algae growth.

Draining excess water into the street or outter also increases the flow of urban numff which picks up motor oil and other toxics from the street surface, carrying them into the storm drains and the ocean.

#### **Solutions**

Best Management Practices such as handling, storing, and disposing of water and materials properly can prevent pollutants from entering the storm drains.

Water from recreational swimming pools, jacuzzis, fish ponds and fountains should only be drained, with a permit, into the sanitary sewer.

# Discharge Regulations

- Water from swimming pools, spas, and fountains should never be discharged into a street or storm drain.
- Only rainwater is permitted to enter the storm drain system according to local, state, and federal regulations. Los Angeles Municipal Code 62.80 prohibits the discharging of pool water into the streets.



# **6** Cleaning Filters

- The City of Long Beach prohibits backwashing into the sewer system from diatomaceous earth filters (DE filters). A separation tank should be used before discharging waste water into the sewer system. The algae and larger particles collected in the separation tank are solid waste and should be disposed of as træsh.
- Sand filtered water, however, can be directly discharged into the sewer system.

## **2** Discharge Options

- Use excess water to irrigate landscaping. Before gradually draining the water onto landscaped areas, you can dechlorinate the water by letting it sit for up to two weeks. If you used a copper-based aloaecide, let the water sit up to a month, since copper can be toxic to plant life.
- After dechlorinating the water, or if you do not use copper-based algaecides, you may be able to get a permit to discharge to the sanitary sewer by running a hose to a utility sink or sewer pipe clearout junction. Contact the local sewage treatment authority.

# Open and Algaecides

- Additives that change water color, such as aqua-blue dyes used in fountains, alter water temperature, filter out sunlight and prevent algae growth. Water containing dyes should be discharged to the sanitary sewer system for filtration.
- Do not use copper-based algaecides unless absolutely necessary. Control alope with chlorine, organic polymers or other alternatives to copper-based pool chemicals. Copper is a powerful herbicide. Sewage treatment technology cannot remove all of the metals that enter the treatment plant.